

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 18

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

December 4, 2006

An act to amend Section 14 of, and to add Section 15 to, the Civil Code, to amend Section 17 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to amend Section 17 of the Corporations Code, to amend Section 354.5 of the Elections Code, to amend Section 17 of the Financial Code, to amend Section 81 of the Fish and Game Code, to amend Section 16 of the Government Code, to amend Section 18 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, to amend Section 18 of the Health and Safety Code, to amend Section 18 of the Insurance Code, to amend Section 17 of the Labor Code, to amend Section 17 of the Military and Veterans Code, to amend Section 7 of the Penal Code, to amend Section 17 of the Public Resources Code, to amend Section 16 of the Public Utilities Code, to amend Section 18 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to amend Section 18 of the Streets and Highways Code, to amend Section 17 of the Unemployment Insurance Code, to amend Section 17 of the Vehicle Code, to amend Section 17 of the Water Code, and to amend Section 17 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to disabled persons.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 18, as introduced, Blakeslee. Disabled persons: signature stamps.

Existing law generally provides that, when a signature is required on a document or writing, a person who cannot write may satisfy that requirement by the use of a mark if certain conditions are met, except as specified.

This bill would establish the Warren Mattingly Signature Stamp Act, which would provide, in addition, that a person with a physical disability

who, by reason of the physical disability, is unable to write may use a signature stamp to affix his or her signature to a document or writing any time that a signature is required by law. The bill would require a person or governmental entity to treat each signature affixed with a signature stamp pursuant to these provisions in the same manner as it treats a signature made in writing. It would allow a person or governmental entity to require a person who uses a signature stamp to present valid photographic identification as proof of his or her identity, and would provide that the owner of a signature stamp shall be liable for any damages caused by the use of the signature stamp by another person unless specified circumstances exist.

The bill would require the State Department of Social Services to adopt regulations to implement these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known as the Warren Mattingly
- 2 Signature Stamp Act.
- 3 SEC. 2. Section 14 of the Civil Code is amended to read:
- 4 14. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include
- 5 the future as well as the present; words used in the masculine
- 6 gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number
- 7 includes the plural, and the plural the singular; ~~the word person.~~
- 8 (1) “Person” includes a corporation as well as a natural person;
- 9 ~~county.~~
- 10 (2) “County” includes ~~city and county; writing~~ *city and county.*
- 11 (3) “Writing” includes printing and typewriting; ~~oath.~~
- 12 (4) “Oath” includes affirmation or declaration; and every mode
- 13 of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by the
- 14 term “testify,” and every written one in the term ~~“depose”;~~
- 15 ~~signature or subscription includes mark, when the person cannot~~
- 16 ~~write, his name being written near it, by a person who writes his~~
- 17 ~~own name as a witness; provided, that when a signature is by mark~~
- 18 ~~it must in order that the same may be acknowledged or may serve~~
- 19 ~~as the signature to any sworn statement be witnessed by two~~
- 20 ~~persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses thereto.~~
- 21 The “*depose.*”

1 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
2 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
3 the context:

4 ~~1. The word “property”~~

5 (1) “Property” includes property real and personal;

6 ~~2. The words “real property” are~~

7 (2) “Real property” is coextensive with lands, tenements, and
8 hereditaments;

9 ~~3. The words “personal property” include~~

10 (3) “Personal property” includes money, goods, chattels, things
11 in action, and evidences of debt;

12 ~~4. The word “month”~~

13 (4) “Month” means a calendar month, unless otherwise
14 expressed;

15 ~~5. The word “will”~~

16 (5) “Will” includes codicil;

17 ~~6. The word “section”~~

18 (6) “Section,” whenever ~~hereinafter~~ employed, refers to a
19 section of this code, unless some other code or statute is expressly
20 mentioned.

21 (7) “Signature” or “subscription” includes the following:

22 (A) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer’s or
23 subscriber’s name being written near the mark by a person who
24 writes his or her own name as a witness, provided that when a
25 signature is by mark it must, in order that it may be acknowledged
26 or may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed
27 by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses
28 thereto.

29 (B) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp
30 pursuant to the requirements specified in Section 15.

31 SEC. 3. Section 15 is added to the Civil Code, to read:

32 15. (a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), and
33 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following
34 provisions apply:

35 (1) A person with a physical disability who, by reason of the
36 physical disability, is unable to write may use a signature stamp
37 to affix his or her signature to a document or writing any time that
38 a signature is required by law.

1 (2) A person or governmental entity shall treat each signature
2 affixed with a signature stamp by a person described in subdivision
3 (a) in the same manner as it treats a signature made in writing.

4 (b) If the requirement that a document or writing be signed is
5 accompanied by any additional qualifying requirement, subdivision
6 (a) shall apply only if each additional qualifying requirement is
7 satisfied.

8 (c) (1) A person shall not use a signature stamp unless the
9 person is the owner of the signature stamp.

10 (2) A person or governmental entity may require a person who
11 uses a signature stamp pursuant to subdivision (a) to present valid
12 photographic identification as proof of his or her identity to ensure
13 that the person using the signature stamp is the owner of the
14 signature stamp. For the purposes of this paragraph, “valid
15 photographic identification” means a valid driver’s license,
16 identification card, passport, or any other documentation that is
17 issued by a governmental entity, that contains a photograph of the
18 person, and that the person or governmental entity considers
19 satisfactory proof of a person’s identity.

20 (d) (1) The owner of a signature stamp shall be liable for any
21 damages caused by the use of the signature stamp by another
22 person, unless both of the following are true:

23 (A) The signature stamp was lost or stolen.

24 (B) The owner reported the loss or theft of the signature stamp
25 to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

26 (2) The owner of a signature stamp shall be liable to a financial
27 institution with whom he or she maintains an account for any
28 damages caused by the use of the signature stamp by another
29 person, unless the requirements specified in paragraph (1) are met
30 and the owner of the signature stamp reported the loss or theft of
31 the signature stamp to that financial institution within 10 days after
32 discovering the loss or theft.

33 (3) A person or governmental entity shall be liable for any
34 damages caused by the use of a signature stamp by a person other
35 than the owner of the signature stamp if the person or governmental
36 entity had an opportunity to verify, in person, the identity of the
37 person who used the signature stamp and failed to verify his or
38 her identity.

39 (e) As used in this section, “signature stamp” means a stamp
40 that contains the impression of any of the following:

1 (1) The actual signature of a person with a physical disability.

2 (2) A mark or symbol that is adopted by the person with the
3 physical disability.

4 (3) A signature of the name of a person with a physical disability
5 that is made by another person and is adopted by the person with
6 the physical disability.

7 (f) The State Department of Social Services shall develop and
8 adopt regulations to implement this section. The regulations shall
9 specify standards relating to each of the following:

10 (1) The development of a signature stamp.

11 (2) The use of a signature stamp.

12 (3) The verification of a signature stamp.

13 (4) Any other matter relating to the use or verification of a
14 signature stamp that the department determines to be necessary.

15 SEC. 4. Section 17 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended
16 to read:

17 17. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include
18 the future as well as the present; words used in the masculine
19 gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number
20 includes the plural and the plural the singular; ~~the word "person".~~

21 (1) ~~"Person~~ includes a corporation as well as a natural person;
22 ~~the word "county".~~

23 (2) ~~"County"~~ includes ~~"city and county"; writing "city and~~
24 ~~county."~~

25 (3) ~~Writing~~ includes printing and typewriting; ~~oath.~~

26 (4) ~~Oath~~ includes affirmation or declaration; and every mode
27 of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by the
28 term "testify," and every written one in the term ~~"depose";~~
29 ~~signature or subscription includes mark, when the person cannot~~
30 ~~write, his or her name being written near it by a person who writes~~
31 ~~his or her own name as a witness; provided, that when a signature~~
32 ~~is by mark it must, in order that the same may be acknowledged~~
33 ~~or may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed~~
34 ~~by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witness~~
35 ~~thereto. "depose."~~

36 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
37 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
38 the context:

39 (1) ~~The word "property"~~ *"Property"* includes both real and
40 personal property.

1 (2) ~~The words “real property” are~~ “*Real property*” is
2 coextensive with lands, tenements, and hereditaments.

3 (3) ~~The words “personal property” include~~ “*Personal property*”
4 *includes* money, goods, chattels, things in action, and evidences
5 of debt.

6 (4) ~~The word “month”~~ “*Month*” means a calendar month, unless
7 otherwise expressed.

8 (5) ~~The word “will”~~ “*Will*” includes codicil.

9 (6) ~~The word “writ”~~ “*Writ*” signifies an order or precept in
10 writing, issued in the name of the people, or of a court or judicial
11 officer, and the word “process” signifies a writ or summons issued
12 in the course of judicial proceedings.

13 (7) ~~The word “state,”~~ “*State,*” when applied to the different
14 parts of the United States, includes the District of Columbia and
15 the territories, and the words “United States” may include the
16 district and territories.

17 (8) ~~The word “section,”~~ “*Section,*” whenever hereinafter
18 employed, refers to a section of this code, unless some other code
19 or statute is expressly mentioned.

20 (9) ~~The word “affinity,”~~ “*Affinity,*” when applied to the marriage
21 relation, signifies the connection existing, in consequence of
22 marriage, between each of the married persons and the blood
23 relatives of the other.

24 (10) ~~The word “sheriff” shall include~~ “*Sheriff*” *includes*
25 “marshal.”

26 (11) “*Signature*” or “*subscription*” includes the following:

27 (A) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer’s or
28 subscriber’s name being written near the mark by a person who
29 writes his or her own name as a witness, provided that when a
30 signature is by mark it must, in order that it may be acknowledged
31 or may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed
32 by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses
33 thereto.

34 (B) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp
35 pursuant to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil
36 Code.

37 SEC. 5. Section 17 of the Corporations Code is amended to
38 read:

39 17. (a) “Signature” includes mark when the signer cannot
40 write, ~~such signer’s~~ *the signer’s* name being written near the mark

1 by a witness who writes his own name near the ~~signer's~~ *signer's*
2 name; but a signature by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or ~~can~~
3 *may* serve as a signature to a sworn statement only when two
4 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

5 (b) *“Signature” also includes an impression made by the use*
6 *of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements specified in*
7 *Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

8 SEC. 6. Section 354.5 of the Elections Code is amended to
9 read:

10 354.5. (a) *“Signature” includes a both of the following:*

11 (1) *A person’s mark if the name of the person affixing the mark*
12 *is written near the mark by a witness over the age of 18 years*
13 *designated by the person and the designee subscribes his or her*
14 *own name as a witness thereto.*

15 (2) *An impression made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant*
16 *to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

17 (b) *A mark attested as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision*
18 *(a), or an impression made by a signature stamp as provided in*
19 *paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), may serve as a signature for any*
20 *purpose specified in this code, including a sworn statement.*

21 SEC. 7. Section 17 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

22 17. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark. The mark*
23 *shall be made as required in the Civil Code.*

24 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
25 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
26 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

27 SEC. 8. Section 81 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to
28 read:

29 81. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the*
30 *signer or subscriber cannot write, ~~such signer's or subscriber's~~ the*
31 *signer's or subscriber's name being written near the mark by a*
32 *witness who writes his or her own name near the ~~signer's or~~*
33 *subscriber's ~~signer's or subscriber's~~ name; but a signature or*
34 *subscription by mark ~~can~~ may be acknowledged or ~~can~~ may serve*
35 *as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two*
36 *witnesses also sign their own names.*

37 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
38 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
39 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

1 SEC. 9. Section 16 of the Government Code is amended to
2 read:

3 16. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
4 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ cannot write, ~~such signer’s or~~
5 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
6 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
7 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
8 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ may be acknowledged or
9 ~~can~~ may serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
10 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

11 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
12 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
13 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

14 SEC. 10. Section 18 of the Harbors and Navigation Code is
15 amended to read:

16 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
17 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ cannot write, ~~such signer’s or~~
18 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
19 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
20 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
21 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ may be acknowledged or
22 ~~can~~ may serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
23 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

24 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
25 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
26 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

27 SEC. 11. Section 18 of the Health and Safety Code is amended
28 to read:

29 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
30 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ cannot write, ~~such signer’s or~~
31 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
32 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
33 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
34 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ may be acknowledged or
35 ~~can~~ may serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
36 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

37 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
38 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
39 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

40 SEC. 12. Section 18 of the Insurance Code is amended to read:

1 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 2 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ *cannot* write, ~~such signer’s or~~
 3 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
 4 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
 5 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
 6 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or
 7 ~~can~~ *may* serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
 8 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

9 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 10 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 11 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

12 SEC. 13. Section 17 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

13 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 14 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ *cannot* write, ~~such signer’s or~~
 15 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
 16 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
 17 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
 18 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or
 19 ~~can~~ *may* serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
 20 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

21 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 22 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 23 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

24 SEC. 14. Section 17 of the Military and Veterans Code is
 25 amended to read:

26 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 27 signer or subscriber cannot write, ~~such signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *the*
 28 *signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near the mark by a
 29 witness who writes his *or her* own name near the ~~signer’s or~~
 30 ~~subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a signature or
 31 subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 32 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 33 witnesses so sign the same.

34 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 35 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 36 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

37 SEC. 15. Section 7 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

38 7. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include the
 39 future as well as the present; words used in the masculine gender

1 include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the
2 plural, and the plural the singular; ~~the word “person”.~~

3 (1) “*Person*” includes a corporation as well as a natural person;
4 ~~the word “county”.~~

5 (2) “*County*” includes ~~“city and county”~~; writing “*city and*
6 *county*.”

7 (3) “*Writing*” includes printing and typewriting; ~~oath.~~

8 (4) “*Oath*” includes affirmation or declaration; and every mode
9 of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by the
10 term “testify,” and every written one in the term ~~“depose”~~;
11 ~~signature or subscription includes mark, when the person cannot~~
12 ~~write, his or her name being written near it, by a person who writes~~
13 ~~his or her own name as a witness; provided, that when a signature~~
14 ~~is made by mark it must, in order that the same may be~~
15 ~~acknowledged or serve as the signature to any sworn statement,~~
16 ~~be witnessed by two persons who must subscribe their own names~~
17 ~~as witnesses thereto. “depose.”~~

18 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
19 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
20 the context:

21 1. ~~The word “willfully,”~~

22 (1) “*Willfully*,” when applied to the intent with which an act is
23 done or omitted, implies simply a purpose or willingness to commit
24 the act, or make the omission referred to. It does not require any
25 intent to violate law, or to injure another, or to acquire any
26 advantage.

27 2. ~~The words “neglect,”~~

28 (2) “*Neglect*,” “negligence,” “negligent,” and “negligently”
29 import a want of ~~such~~ *the* attention to the nature or probable
30 consequences of the act or omission ~~as that~~ a prudent ~~man~~ *person*
31 ordinarily bestows in acting in ~~his or her~~ own concerns.

32 3. ~~The word “corruptly”~~

33 (3) “*Corruptly*” imports a wrongful design to acquire or cause
34 some pecuniary or other advantage to the person guilty of the act
35 or omission referred to, or to some other person.

36 4. ~~The words “malice”~~

37 (4) “*Malice*” and “maliciously” import a wish to vex, annoy,
38 or injure another person, or an intent to do a wrongful act,
39 established either by proof or presumption of law.

40 5. ~~The word “knowingly”~~

1 (5) “*Knowingly*” imports only a knowledge that the facts exist
2 which bring the act or omission within the provisions of this code.
3 It does not require any knowledge of the unlawfulness of ~~such~~ *that*
4 act or omission.

5 ~~6. The word “bribe”~~

6 (6) “*Bribe*” signifies anything of value or advantage, present
7 or prospective, or any promise or undertaking to give any, asked,
8 given, or accepted, with a corrupt intent to influence, unlawfully,
9 the person to whom it is given, in his or her action, vote, or opinion,
10 in any public or official capacity.

11 ~~7. The word “vessel,”~~

12 (7) “*Vessel*,” when used with reference to shipping, includes
13 ships of all kinds, steamboats, canalboats, barges, and every
14 structure adapted to be navigated from place to place for the
15 transportation of merchandise or persons, except that, as used in
16 Sections 192.5 and 193.5, ~~the word~~ “vessel” means a vessel as
17 defined in subdivision (c) of Section 651 of the Harbors and
18 Navigation Code.

19 ~~8. The words “peace officer” signify~~

20 (8) “*Peace officer*” signifies any one of the officers mentioned
21 in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part
22 2.

23 ~~9. The word “magistrate”~~

24 (9) “*Magistrate*” signifies any one of the officers mentioned in
25 Section 808.

26 ~~10. The word “property”~~

27 (10) “*Property*” includes both real and personal property.

28 ~~11. The words “real property” are~~

29 (11) “*Real property*” is coextensive with lands, tenements, and
30 hereditaments.

31 ~~12. The words “personal property” include~~

32 (12) “*Personal property*” includes money, goods, chattels,
33 things in action, and evidences of debt.

34 ~~13. The word “month”~~

35 (13) “*Month*” means a calendar month, unless otherwise
36 expressed; ~~the word~~ “daytime” means the period between sunrise
37 and sunset, and ~~the word~~ “nighttime” means the period between
38 sunset and sunrise.

39 ~~14. The word “will”~~

40 (14) “*Will*” includes codicil.

1 ~~15. The word “writ”~~
 2 (15) “Writ” signifies an order or precept in writing, issued in
 3 the name of the people, or of a court or judicial officer, and ~~the~~
 4 ~~word “process”~~ a writ or summons issued in the course of judicial
 5 proceedings.

6 ~~16.~~
 7 (16) *When the seal of a court or public officer is required by*
 8 *law to be affixed to any paper, the word “seal” includes an*
 9 *impression of the seal upon the paper alone, or upon any substance*
 10 *attached to the paper capable of receiving a visible impression.*
 11 *The seal of a private person may be made in like manner, or by*
 12 *the scroll of a pen, or by writing the word “seal” against his or*
 13 *her name.*

14 (17) “State,” when applied to the different parts of the United
 15 States, includes the District of Columbia and the territories, and
 16 “United States” may include the district and territories.

17 (18) “Section,” whenever hereinafter employed, refers to a
 18 section of this code, unless some other code or statute is expressly
 19 mentioned.

20 (19) To “book” signifies the recordation of an arrest in official
 21 police records, and the taking by the police of fingerprints and
 22 photographs of the person arrested, or any of these acts following
 23 an arrest.

24 (20) “Signature” or “subscription” includes both of the
 25 following:

26 (1) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer’s or
 27 subscriber’s name being written near the mark by a person who
 28 writes his or her own name as a witness; provided, that when a
 29 signature is made by mark it must, in order that it may be
 30 acknowledged or serve as the signature to any sworn statement,
 31 be witnessed by two persons who must subscribe their own names
 32 as witnesses thereto.

33 (2) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant
 34 to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

35 (c) Words and phrases must be construed according to the
 36 context and the approved usage of the language; but technical
 37 words and phrases, and ~~such~~ any others as may have acquired a
 38 peculiar and appropriate meaning in law, ~~must~~ shall be construed
 39 according to ~~such~~ that peculiar and appropriate meaning.

40 ~~17.~~

1 (d) Words giving a joint authority to three or more public
2 officers or other persons, are construed as giving ~~such~~ *that* authority
3 to a majority of them, unless it is otherwise expressed in the act
4 giving the authority.

5 18. ~~When the seal of a court or public officer is required by law~~
6 ~~to be affixed to any paper, the word “seal” includes an impression~~
7 ~~of such seal upon the paper alone, or upon any substance attached~~
8 ~~to the paper capable of receiving a visible impression. The seal of~~
9 ~~a private person may be made in like manner, or by the scroll of~~
10 ~~a pen, or by writing the word “seal” against his or her name.~~

11 19. ~~The word “state,” when applied to the different parts of the~~
12 ~~United States, includes the District of Columbia and the territories,~~
13 ~~and the words “United States” may include the district and~~
14 ~~territories.~~

15 20. ~~The word “section,” whenever hereinafter employed, refers~~
16 ~~to a section of this code, unless some other code or statute is~~
17 ~~expressly mentioned.~~

18 21. ~~To “book” signifies the recordation of an arrest in official~~
19 ~~police records, and the taking by the police of fingerprints and~~
20 ~~photographs of the person arrested, or any of these acts following~~
21 ~~an arrest.~~

22 SEC. 16. Section 17 of the Public Resources Code is amended
23 to read:

24 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
25 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ *cannot* write, ~~such signer’s or~~
26 ~~subscriber’s~~ *the signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near
27 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
28 ~~signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *signer’s or subscriber’s* name; but a
29 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or
30 ~~can~~ *may* serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
31 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

32 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
33 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
34 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

35 SEC. 17. Section 16 of the Public Utilities Code is amended
36 to read:

37 16. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
38 signer or subscriber cannot write, ~~such signer’s or subscriber’s~~ *the*
39 *signer’s or subscriber’s* name being written near the mark by a
40 witness who writes his *or her* own name near the ~~signer’s or~~

1 ~~subscriber's~~ *signer's or subscriber's* name; but a signature or
 2 subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or ~~can~~ *may* serve
 3 as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 4 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

5 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
 6 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
 7 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

8 SEC. 18. Section 18 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is
 9 amended to read:

10 18. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark. ~~Such~~ The*
 11 *mark shall be made as required in the Civil Code.*

12 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
 13 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
 14 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

15 SEC. 19. Section 18 of the Streets and Highways Code is
 16 amended to read:

17 18. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the*
 18 *signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ cannot write, ~~such signer's or~~*
 19 *~~subscriber's~~ the signer's or subscriber's name being written near*
 20 *the mark by a witness who writes his or her own name near the*
 21 *~~signer's or subscriber's~~ signer's or subscriber's name; but a*
 22 *signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ may be acknowledged or*
 23 *~~can~~ may serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement*
 24 *only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.*

25 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
 26 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
 27 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

28 SEC. 20. Section 17 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is
 29 amended to read:

30 17. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark. The mark*
 31 *shall be made as required in the Civil Code.*

32 (b) *“Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression*
 33 *made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements*
 34 *specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.*

35 SEC. 21. Section 17 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

36 17. (a) *“Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the*
 37 *signer or subscriber cannot write, ~~such signer's or subscriber's~~ the*
 38 *signer's or subscriber's name being written near the mark by a*
 39 *witness who writes his or her own name near the ~~signer's or~~*
 40 *~~subscriber's~~ signer's or subscriber's name; but a signature or*

1 subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or ~~can~~ *may* serve
2 as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
3 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

4 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
5 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
6 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

7 SEC. 22. Section 17 of the Water Code is amended to read:

8 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
9 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ *cannot* write, ~~such signer's or~~
10 ~~subscriber's~~ *the signer's or subscriber's* name being written near
11 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
12 ~~signer's or subscriber's~~ *signer's or subscriber's* name; but a
13 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or
14 ~~can~~ *may* serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
15 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

16 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
17 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
18 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

19 SEC. 23. Section 17 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
20 amended to read:

21 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
22 signer or subscriber ~~can not~~ *cannot* write, ~~such signer's or~~
23 ~~subscriber's~~ *the signer's or subscriber's* name being written near
24 the mark by a witness who writes his *or her* own name near the
25 ~~signer's or subscriber's~~ *signer's or subscriber's* name; but a
26 signature or subscription by mark ~~can~~ *may* be acknowledged or
27 ~~can~~ *may* serve as a signature or subscription to a sworn statement
28 only when two witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

29 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
30 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
31 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.